

FOOD PREPARATION APPLIANCE

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

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A food preparation appliance is disclosed. The appliance includes a food preparation container and a base unit. The base unit includes a stirring mechanism drive and a heating element. The heating element comprises an induction heating element. The stirring mechanism drive includes a motor which drives a drive pin. The base unit has a control panel for use in controlling the stirring mechanism drive and the heating element.

In one or more embodiments, the base unit includes a processor and memory storage device. Specific control sequences are stored and may be processed, whereby the stirring and heating mechanisms operate in a specific sequence and manner. In one embodiment, control information, such as cooking control instructions associated with a particular recipe of food to be prepared, may be downloaded from a remote location to the base unit via a telecommunication link. The food preparation container comprises a specially configured pot. The pot has a mixer which is removably located in its interior. The mixer includes a helical central blade and an outwardly extending wiping blade. The mixer includes a spindle for connection to the drive pin of the base unit via a connecting rod. The pot may be removed from the base unit and used independently thereof.

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